

Ability and possibility can, could, be able to

I. It's never too late

My 78-year-old father **couldn't / wasn't able to** even turn on a computer until about two years ago. All that changed when he decided that he wanted to **can / be able to** use the internet and he did a course at his local Adult Education Centre. Although he really enjoyed the course, he **couldn't / wasn't able to** put what he learnt in his classes into practice because he didn't have a computer. So, for his birthday, I bought him his own laptop and that's when he really started learning! Now, he's **able to / can** use the internet really well and send emails. What he loves most is **can / being able to** speak to and see his grandchildren on Skype at least once a week. We live in Australia, but he lives in the UK. If he didn't have a computer, he **couldn't / wouldn't be able to** keep in touch with us so much.

II. Complete the sentences with *can / can't* or *could / couldn't*. If a form of *can / could* isn't possible, complete the sentence with a form of *be able to*.

1. At the end of the six-week course, you 'll be able to design your own website.
2. Masha called me yesterday because she _____ remember how to get to my house.

3. Simon isn't going to finish the report by the end of the day.
4. Pierre has passed his driving test, so now he _____ drive his father's car.
5. I haven't _____ speak to Harry for over three weeks. He never answers his phone.
6. The train was delayed, so I _____ get to the meeting on time.
7. Miriam hates not _____ play chess as well as Luke. He always beats her and she's a really bad loser!
8. Sometimes when you're on Skype you _____ hear the other person very well.
9. I'm afraid I won't _____ go away this weekend. I'm too busy.
10. You should _____ do this exercise without any help. It's quite easy.
11. We _____ park here; there are no spaces.
12. _____ do what you like is the best thing about a holiday.